

From the Upper Chamber



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Report for Saturday, February 10, 2007 *Family Day 2007*

The seventeenth day of the 2007 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Casey Cagle**.

Senator **Don Balfour** of the 9th stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 129-143, Senate Resolutions 243, 246 and 247, and House Bills 53, 101, 215, 266 and 273 were read for the first time and assigned to committees. The clerk of the Secretary then read the reports of standing committees and second readers.

Lt. Gov. **Cagle** welcomed Senators and their families to the Capitol for Family Day. Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19th moved to dispense with the morning roll call.

Lt. Gov. **Cagle** then recognized Sen. **John Douglas** of the 17th, who took the rostrum to lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sen. **Douglas** introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Reverend **Ronny Brannen** of Prospect United Methodist Church in Covington, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

President Pro Tempore **Eric Johnson** of the 1st took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to explain the traditions and activities of Family Day.

Sen. **Douglas** took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to recognize some guests in the Senate gallery.

Sen. **Seth Harp** of the 29th took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to discuss some of the public response to a bill he sponsored on child support laws, which passed in 2006.

Sen. **Williams** took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office.

Sen. **Gloria Butler** of the 55th took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to introduce her family on the Senate floor.

Sen. **Ron Ramsey** of the 43rd took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to honor the working families of the state.

SR 236-242, 244 and 245 were then read and adopted.

The Senate Local Consent Calendar, consisting of HB 93, was adopted by a unanimous vote.

The Secretary read SB 34, which prohibits convicted felons from posting photographs of their victims and/or crime scenes in their prison cells.

Sen. **Williams** took the well to speak to the bill.

SB 34 passed by a vote of 41 to 0.

The Secretary then read SB 61, which requires a petitioner to a child-placement agency to submit to a criminal background check.

Sen. **Jeff Mullis** of the 53rd took the well to present the Committee Substitute. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Ed Harbison** from the 15th.

The Committee Substitute was adopted by a vote of 32 to 0.

SB 61 passed by substitute by a vote of 40 to 0.

Lt. Gov. **Cagle** recognized former Sen. **Eddie Madden** from northeast Georgia, on the Senate floor.

Sen. **Joseph Carter** of the 13th took the well to introduce the Georgia Tech mascot, "Buzz."

The Secretary read SB 71, which would reduce the number of dates on which special elections may be held at the local level.

Sen. **Williams** took the well to present the bill and the Committee Amendment. He yielded to questions from Senators **Vincent Fort** of the 39th and **Mitch Seabaugh** of the 28th.

The Committee Amendment was adopted by a vote of 32 to 0.

SB 71 passed as amended by a vote of 36 to 3.

The Secretary read SR 87, which urges the Georgia Department of Human Resources to name the district health office building to be built at Northwest Georgia Regional Hospital in honor of Dr. **Raymond F. Corpe**.

Sen. **Preston Smith** of the 52nd took the well to speak to the resolution.

SR 87 was adopted by a vote of 37 to 1.

Following the announcements, Majority Leader **Williams** moved that the Senate stand adjourned until 1:00 p.m., Monday, February 12.

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